

Neighborhood Block Watch

When

All

The

Citizens

Help

The Triangle of Crime

As individuals or as an organized group, we have neither control over, nor knowledge of a person's **desire** or **ability** to commit crime. If the criminal has **desire** and **ability**, and has selected a victim, all that is necessary to commit a crime is **opportunity**.

We do have control over opportunity.

By organizing, learning, and putting our knowledge to use in our homes and neighborhoods, we can deny the criminal the **opportunity** and thereby reduce crime.

A Low Cost Security System

Here is a security system that you can't afford to pass up. **Block Watch** works through the care and concern of neighbors who will phone the police to report suspected crimes and suspicious persons in their neighborhoods.

All it costs is a firm commitment to reduce or eliminate crime in your neighborhood.

Block Watch really works. It had been proven time and time again. Crime rates go down in neighborhoods that care enough to organize and fight crime.

Learn what to do to stop neighborhood crime, and let the criminals know that **you** know what to do.

Your Police Department is ready and willing to help you set up a **Block Watch** in your neighborhood. We know what you need to do **harden your target**, and will instruct your group.

Neighborhood Block Watch Not Just Residential

The corner store where you stop for milk and bread should also be a part of your NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH program, even if the owner and employees live in other sections of

town. They too, worry about safety in the neighborhood at least as much as you and your neighbors do. After all, an area of town where crime finds success is an area where business people will not succeed.

Businesses in your area are part of the neighborhood too, and consideration of their vulnerability to crime should be a neighborhood concern. Somebody getting away with the burglary of the liquor store down the street doesn't just mean the store lost money; it means that crime has come to your neighborhood.

Invite local business people to block watch meetings and give them the opportunity to voice their concerns and offer their suggestions for improving neighborhood security. Help protect their businesses—call the police if you see anything suspicious or if you hear the sound of a burglar alarm system.

A Word of Cautions

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH does not mean prying or nosy neighbors. As a member, your responsibility is to call the police and report what you've seen—NOT to take action by yourself.

Look and Listen

As a member NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH, it will be your responsibility to call the police about all suspicious activity in your neighborhood. You and your fellow members should report unusual situations such as:

- A stranger entering a neighbor's home or apartment that appears to be unoccupied.
- Anyone looking into parked cars, or removing parts, gasoline, or license plates from cars.
- Anyone entering or leaving a place of business after hours, or loitering outside.
- Breaking glass, gunshots, screams, or abnormally loud barking dogs.
- Anyone loitering around neighborhoods, schools or parks.
- Anyone going door to door who tries to open a door or goes into a back yard.
- Anyone carrying unwrapped property at any unusual time, or running while carrying property.
- Any vehicle cruising slowly back and forth on your street.
- Any abandoned vehicle on your street.
- Windows or doors recently broken at a home or business.
- Anyone sitting in a parked car, especially at an unusual hour, outside of a home or business.
- Alarms sounding in your neighborhood.

What the Police Need to Know

- What happened? Where? When? How? Who did it?
- Where they armed? What is their sex? Race? Age? Color? Height? Weight? Hair color? Clothing? Shoes? Any unusual characteristics?
- Did they say anything?
- If a vehicle was involved, what was its license plate number? Color? Make? Model? Year? In which direction did it go when it left? How many people were in the vehicle?

For additional information:

Contact the Milwaukee Police Department

District Two Community Liaison Officer
245 W. Lincoln Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207
(414)935-7228

CRIME PREVENTION DISTRICT OFFICES

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| DISTRICT #1 | 935-7701 |
| DISTRICT #2 | 935-7228 |
| DISTRICT #3 | 935-7733 |
| DISTRICT #4 | 935-7248 |
| DISTRICT #5 | 935-7258 |
| DISTRICT #6 | 935-7268 |
| DISTRICT #7 | 935-7278 |

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY

933-4444

If you need help in organizing a Neighborhood Block Watch group, please contact your Police District.

Please visit the Milwaukee Police Department Web Site at: <http://www.milwaukee.gov/police>